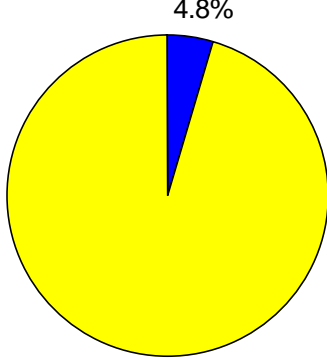


04-06-Cable Communications Enforcement

Fund/Agency: 105/04	Department of Cable Communications and Consumer Protection	
Personnel Services	\$496,073	<p>CAPS Percentage of Agency Total</p>  <p>4.8%</p> <p>95.2%</p> <p>■ Cable Communications Enforcement ■ All Other Agency CAPS</p>
Operating Expenses	\$229,587	
Recovered Costs	\$0	
Capital Equipment	\$0	
Total CAPS Cost:	\$725,660	
Federal Revenue	\$0	
State Revenue	\$0	
User Fee Revenue	\$0	
Other Revenue	\$0	
Total Revenue:	\$0	
Net CAPS Cost:	\$725,660	
Positions/SYE involved in the delivery of this CAPS	0/8	

► CAPS Summary

Cable Communications Enforcement includes: engineering review and approval of franchised cable plant construction and maintenance plans; inspection and citations for cable construction and maintenance performed on County property or rights-of-way; testing and performance certification of cable facilities; enforcement of Federal Communications Commission technical and performance standards; enforcement of national and state cable construction codes (e.g., National Electrical Safety Code); and, issuance of penalties (fines) for construction violations or the failure to meet technical specifications. This program ensures that public safety is paramount in the construction and operation of cable systems in Fairfax County, and includes the following elements of engineering review and enforcement:

- Enforcement of franchise technical provisions and appropriate cable construction methodology through the review of County-required cable company construction design and/or redesign submissions;
- Review and approval of internal cable communication wiring in County facilities;

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- Inspection of cable construction for safe construction practices and conformance with applicable federal, state, and local telecommunications codes and franchise provisions;
- Inspection of cable construction in the public rights-of-way as an enforcement agent for the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT);
- Supervising and auditing cable system conformance with Federal Communications Commission biannual proof-of-performance testing;
- Investigation of subscriber complaints involving signal quality and other questions of cable system conformance to FCC and County technical standards;
- Issuing Stop Work orders for cable construction safety violations and violation notices for other cable construction violations; and,
- Assessing penalties against cable operators for violations that continue beyond the specified period allowed for correction.

► **Method of Service Provision**

Services are provided primarily by merit County employees, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Additional services are provided by consulting engineers as required.

► **Performance/Workload Related Data**

- Imminent danger construction violations resulted in 19 Stop Work orders in FY 2001;
- Total of 6,391 construction sites inspected in FY 2001;
- A new inspection program based on a survey of best practices was implemented in February 2001. Since program implementation:
 - 90 notices of construction or network safety deficiencies issued;
 - 20 VDOT deficiencies issued;
 - 43 other code or franchise deficiencies issued;
 - 61 non-correction violation notices were issued;
 - \$2,600 in penalties were assessed against cable operators for non-compliance; and,
 - 100 percent ultimate conformance rate as of July 2001.
- Additionally, for FY 2001:
 - Installation of 84 County cable service locations (i.e., TV, VCR, converter box);
 - Total of 179 service calls to County agencies; and
 - Total of 117 technically-related subscriber complaints investigated.

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► **Mandate Information**

This CAPS is Federally or State mandated. The percentage of this CAPS' resources utilized to satisfy the mandate is 51 - 75%. The specific Federal or State code and a brief description of the code follows:

- C.F.R. 47, Part 76, Multi-channel Video and Cable Television Service and Code of Virginia, Section 15.2-2108, Licensing, etc., and regulation of cable television systems. Local Franchising Authorities enforce FCC performance and customer service standards.